

Message Text

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ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 HA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 H-02
AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11 HEW-06 SS-15
NSC-05 DODE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02 /158 W
-----079231 221748Z /46-50

P 221632Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6673
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
USMISSION GENEVA

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USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, ICFTU, PL, UR
SUBJ: ICFTU TO FILE ILO COMPLAINT AGAINST POLAND AND USSR

REFS: (A) BRUSSELS 9193; (B) 1977 BRUSSELS 693 (NOTAL)

1. OTTO KERSTEN, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU), ANNOUNCED IN HAMBURG MAY 19 THAT THE ICFTU WILL FILE A COMPLAINT AT THE ILO AGAINST THE USSR AND POLAND FOR VIOLATIONS OF TRADE UNION FREEDOM. "IN BOTH COUNTRIES," SAID KERSTEN, "PEOPLE ARE SUBMITTED TO THE HEAVIEST PERSECUTION BECAUSE THEY TRY TO UNIONIZE OUTSIDE THE OFFICIAL LABOR APPARATUS."

2. THE USSR AND POLAND, SAID KERSTEN, WILL BE CHARGED WITH VIOLATING THE ILO CONVENTION--NUMBER 87--DEALING WITH TRADE UNION FREEDOM, WHICH BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE RATIFIED. KERSTEN POINTED OUT THAT THE ICFTU IN EARLY 1977 HAD FILED AN ILO COMPLAINT AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA ON GROUNDS OF VIOLATING ILO CONVENTION 111 ON DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT (REF B). ACCORDING TO KERSTEN, THE COMPLAINT AGAINST CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS STILL BEING INVESTIGATED BY THE ILO BUT MAY COME UP FOR ACTION DURING THE ILO CONFERENCE NEXT MONTH.

3. KERSTEN MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT AT A WELL-ATTENDED PRESS CONFERENCE ON THE LAST DAY OF A THREE-DAY ICFTU BOARD MEETING IN HAMBURG. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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